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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/031,690	05/31/2002	Frank Bongardt	H 4043 PCT/US	8266
23657	7590	07/07/2005	EXAMINER	
COGNIS CORPORATION PATENT DEPARTMENT 300 BROOKSIDE AVENUE AMBLER, PA 19002			TOOMER, CEPHIA D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1714	

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/031,690

Applicant(s)

BONGARDT ET AL.

Examiner

Cephia D. Toomer

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the request for reconsideration filed April 5, 2005.

Claim 33 was inadvertently omitted from the prior Office action.

Double Patenting

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 14-33 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of copending Application No. 10/473,117. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the composition of the present invention is silent with respect to the components (d) and (e) of the copending application. However, the present claims are opened to the addition of these components.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 14-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wenzel US 20030093941.

Wenzel teaches a fuel additive composition comprising a) one or more water-soluble alcohols having between 1 and 5 carbon atoms in an anhydrous state or as a 0.5-36 % aqueous solution one or more of b) one or more straight or branched chain alcohols having between 6-18 carbon atoms and c) one or more ethoxylated alcohols having between 12 and 18 carbon atoms where the ethylene oxide add-on is less than 5 moles and d) a source of nitrogen in an anhydrous state or as an aqueous solution (see abstract paragraph 223-229). The fuel may be any fossil fuel such as diesel (see paragraph 243). The composition may or may not contain water (see col. 28, examples and paragraphs 0440 & 0666). Wenzel teaches numerous fuel to additive ratios that encompass the claimed proportions, for example 99:1 to 50:50 (see paragraph 229).

In the examples, Wenzel discloses that the alcohols having 6-18 carbon atoms are present in the composition in an amount from 6-32 parts by volume (see paragraph 375, 377, 379, 381, etc) and the ethoxylated alcohol is present in an amount from 2-32 parts by volume (see paragraph 381, 383, 385). The other additives (a source of nitrogen) is present in the composition in an amount from 0.3-6 parts by volume (see

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paragraph 375, 381, 379). Wenzel teaches the limitations of the claims other than the differences that are discussed below.

In the first aspect, Wenzel differs from the claims in that he does not specially teach a composition wherein the C₁₂ – C₂₄ branched alcohol is present. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have employed such a compound because Wenzel teaches that one or more straight or branched-chain alcohol having 6 – 18 carbon atoms may be employed, and he exemplifies straight chain alcohols having 18 carbon atoms. The combination of these teachings clearly suggest that a branched chain of 18 carbon atoms may be included in the composition.

3. Claims 28-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wenzel further in view of Boehmke (US 4,297,107).

Wenzel has been discussed above. Wenzel fails to teach or suggest the claimed corrosion inhibitor. However, Boehmke teaches that 0.5 –6% of ethoxylated carboxylic acid amides are employed in diesel fuel additives as emulsifiers and rust inhibitors (see abstract; col. 1, lines 23-31; col. 4 lines 28-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have employed the ethoxylated carboxylic acid amides in the fuel additive because Boehmke teaches that these compounds function as emulsifiers and rust inhibitor in fuel additives that contain alcohols and water and Wenzel teaches that too much may lead to corrosion (see Wenzel paragraph 359) .

4. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

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Applicant argues that Wenzel does not contain a single example of an additive composition containing both a branched C₁₂₋₂₄ alcohol and an ethoxylated C₈₋₂₄ alcohol.

It is well settled that a reference must be relied upon for all that it teaches and is not limited to specific working examples therein. In re Fracalossi, 215 USPQ 569 (CCPA 1982).

The examiner maintains that she has set forth a prima facie case of obviousness. Wenzel teaches in the abstract that the aqueous fuel contains a water soluble C₁₋₅ alcohol, and **one or more** of the following: **one or more** straight or **branched-chain alcohols having between 6-18 carbon atoms and one or more ethoxylated alcohols having 12-18 carbon atoms where the ethylene oxide add-ons is less than 5 moles**. Wenzel has set forth all of the required components. By his teaching of one of more of the components (b)-(e), Wenzel has clearly set forth what Applicant is claiming. The skilled artisan having Wenzel before him/her would not find it necessary to "try" to prepare the claimed composition. Wenzel discloses and suggests everything that Applicant is claiming.

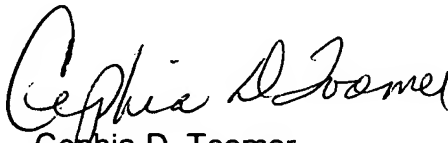
Applicant argues that the selection of the branched alcohol and ethoxylated alcohol is critical. However, Applicant has not provided any support or data to backup this claim of criticality. In Ex parte Wittpenn, it was shown that the selection of that specific surfactant was critical. Applicant has not shown any criticality in the claimed mixture of branched alcohols and ethoxylated alcohols.

It is clear that the fuel composition taught within the four corners of Wenzel renders the claimed composition prima facie obvious.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cephia D. Toomer whose telephone number is 571-272-1126. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on 571-272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Cephia D. Toomer
Primary Examiner
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